

The Democratic Banner.

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CANNOT LOCATE BANK DIRECTOR

Is Wanted As Witness In Pittsburg Graft Cases

Councilmen Had Organization—Held Weekly Meetings To Decide How Much Money Would Be Required To Secure Passage Of Legislation—Made Little Attempt To Conceal Business Transacted At Caucus—Two Clerks To Testify As To Bribes

Pittsburg, March 28.—In anticipation of today's events in the graft cases uneasiness is shown on all sides in Pittsburg. Directors of banks which held city deposits are expected to appear in court and tell on their oaths what they know about their banks buying the city deposits for cash from the city councilmen.

Parauance of the graft investigation uncovered that for some years grafting members of Pittsburg council, about 60 in number, met weekly in parlors of a big downtown hotel and there, behind closed doors, discussed what had been offered by certain firms for the passage of certain ordinances, what should be charged, etc. This weekly meeting was called "the caucus," and was attended by all former members of councils who are now in the toll.

Councilman John Klein was secretary of the caucus and President William Brand of common council was chairman. So bold were the movements of this party of councilmen that invitations were sent to the newspapers to have reporters wait in the offices of the caucus after adjournment in order that news "of interest to the public" might be secured. It is now believed by local newspapers that threatened publicity was frequently held over the heads of victims by "the caucus" in order that high-priced bargains might be driven for real money considerations. "We dare them to arrest us. If arrested, we will take a whole train load of those big fellows to the penitentiary with us," was the bold joint statement made by Clerks Venerka and Muhlbrunner of the Workingmen's Savings and Trust company, some months ago, when it had been

practically common knowledge that the bank was short about \$70,000 through them. That this pair knew something and did not intend to go to Riverside penitentiary without making a hard fight and taking some others along with them, was shown when they were called for sentence in court, and they gave the court privately some reasons why they did not think they should be sent to Riverside penitentiary, and the court suspended sentences in cases of both.

Made Open Bonnet. Venerka and Muhlbrunner were arrested some time after they had made this open boast, but the claim is made that they were not taken into custody until long after the directorate had been informed as to their shortages, etc. Even then the arrests were not made at the instance of the bank directorate, but by a bonding company which had guaranteed the two employees. Officials of the Workingmen's Savings and Trust company, which is one of the six city depositories, deny that they hesitated on finding there was a shortage.

It is announced that the two clerks will appear before the grand jury today or tomorrow and tell what they know about the inside workings of the Workingmen's Savings and Trust company in connection with securing the city deposits. Several members of this directorate who have been told to come before grand jury and the court today are reported as very ill. While endeavoring to make a denial of the clerks' intimation, one of the most prominent directors collapsed at the phone in his home. He can not be located.

Experience takes dreadfully high school wages, but he teaches like no other.—Carlisle.

MAY HAVE TO SUSPEND

East Liverpool, O., March 28.—Unless the strike of biscuit warehouse and dipping house girls in the local potteries is settled today, it is said the 28 potteries in this city will have to suspend operations. Between 400 and 500 girls in the potteries here have demanded an increase in wages. Joseph Bishop of Columbus, secretary of the state board of arbitration, is in charge of the situation. He attended a conference of the strikers' committee and the labor committee of the manufacturers, when the manufacturers submitted a wage proposition, which the girls rejected.

ARRESTS OWN SON

Lancaster, Pa., March 28.—When the police entered a cigar warehouse they discovered thieves at work there. They captured Walter Gilgore and Edward W. Smith, 17. The former proved to be the son of one of the policemen making the arrest.

TWO LOSE LIVES IN CRASH OF TROLLEYS

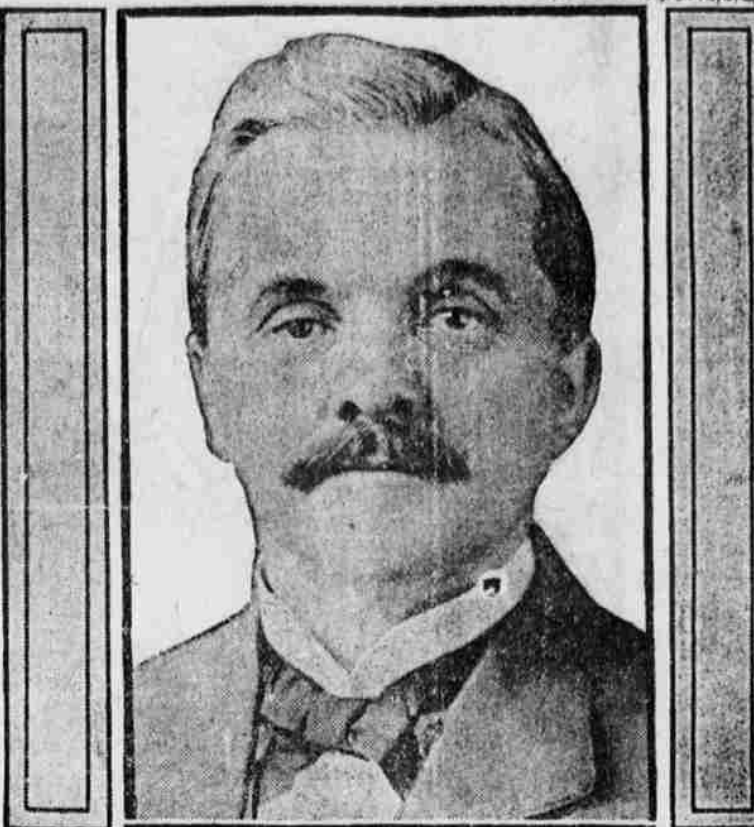
One Fatally Injured In Unexplainable Wreck

Lima, O., March 28.—Two lives were snuffed out, two trams seriously injured, a vacant dwelling destroyed and two traction cars burned to the ironwork in a head-on collision between passenger car 82, westbound out of Van Wert, and express car 199, eastbound, on the Ft. Wayne, Van Wert & Lima railroad, Ohio Electric system. The dead: Pearl H. McPherson, Lima, motorman on the passenger car; Earl Rothrock, expressman, Lockington, electrocuted. Seriously injured: James Rick, Lima, baggage man, compound fracture left leg, back broken, will die; Earl Stewart, Lima, conductor on express car, bruised. Three passengers were thrown from seats and slightly bruised, but not seriously.

The cause of the mad dash of the two cars towards each other can not be given, the crash occurring not 50 rods from the station in Convey, where both motormen are said to have secured their orders.

Business Section Wiped Out. Welsh, La., March 28.—This city was practically wiped out by fire, which started in the Signal hotel and swept through the business section, destroying four squares and causing \$200,000 loss.

The Man That Started Trouble For Uncle Joe In Congress



When Congressman George W. Norris of Nebraska walks down Pennsylvania avenue the "Seeling Washington" automobile lecturers are wont to point to him and exclaim, "That is the man that did it!" which means, as every one knows, that Congressman Norris started the downfall of Uncle Joe Cannon by introducing the famous Norris resolution removing the speaker from the rules committee.

DEMOCRATIC LEADERS LINE UP FOR HARMON

Hot Springs, Ark., March 28.—The Democratic leaders who have been in conference here for several weeks, including National Chairman Norman E. Mack, C. F. Murphy of Tammany Hall, Roger Sullivan, Phil Donahue and others of lesser degree, see but one possible chance for the defeat of Judson Harmon, governor of Ohio, in the race for the presidential nomination. The chance is remote. It related to New York state.

"If," says one of those mentioned, who declined to be quoted, "a man is nominated for governor of New York on the Democratic ticket who will carry the state by a goodly majority,

he and Harmon will have to fight it out in the convention. Even if Harmon should lose in Ohio, he will still be a formidable quantity. I'd be willing to make an even money bet that he'll not only be the nominee, but the next president of the United States.

"Gaynor? No, he hasn't the record and he hasn't the national reputation that Harmon has. I don't see how it would ever be possible for Gaynor to secure the nomination."

Maac Gilson and his family were saved from a fiery death at Pittsburg by the cackling of geese when a fire broke out in their kitchen.

DESTROYED BY AVALANCHE

Tacoma, Wash., March 28.—The town of Monte Cristo, in the Cascade mountains, 20 miles east of Everett, has been demolished by avalanches during February and March. This winter's snowfalls have been larger and more numerous than ever before. The inhabitants of Monte Cristo foresaw their danger and moved to places of safety. No fatalities have occurred.

Armour Blames Farmer. Galveston, Tex., March 28.—J. Ogden Armour, the Chicago packer, gave out an interview at San Antonio in which he suggests that the government should investigate the farmers' trusts, which he declares are responsible for the price of meats, and not the packers. "This will all be shown at the trial of the packers. I have no fear of federal conviction as a member of the beef trust," he said.

SYMPATHY STRIKE ENDS MEN RETURN TO WORK

Philadelphia, March 28.—By unanimous vote the Central Labor union declared off the general sympathetic strike which was called more than three weeks ago as a measure to aid the striking carmen of the Rapid Transit company, and directed all men who went out at that time to return to their work today.

The strike of the carmen, however, is to be prosecuted vigorously and workmen in this city as well as outposts throughout the entire state will be asked to help support the motormen and conductors and their strike.

Fairbanks Reported Better. Indianapolis, March 28.—Former Vice President Fairbanks, whose condition gave his friends considerable alarm, is much improved, and unless unlooked for complications appear he will be out in a few days.

OPTION IS THE ISSUE

Indianapolis, March 28.—Complete reports from the Republican county conventions held to elect delegates to the state convention indicate that the Republicans of the dry counties will insist on the indorsement of the local option law by the state convention and thus make that question an issue in the campaign. In several counties which have voted dry within the last year the local option and anti-option forces made a test of strength, and in every instance the local option men won.

DEED OF EPILEPTIC

Manchester, O., March 28.—At Wheat, Adams county, John McCarty, epileptic, entered the home of his cousin, W. P. McCarty, where the latter's two daughters, aged 5 and 18, were staying. The younger girl was ejected by McCarty and the doors and windows were securely nailed. One shot was then fired. The little girl gave the alarm, and when neighbors reached the cottage it was in flames. Before the building was totally destroyed the two charred bodies could be plainly seen.

THE MANZ SISTERS

Elizabeth Dead and Katie Charged With Her Murder.



FEAR GIRL WILL END LIFE

Katherine Manz Denied Newspapers by Stark County Sheriff.

Canton, O., March 28.—The fear that 16-year-old Katherine Manz, held as the slayer of her sister Elizabeth, may become despondent and attempt to end her own life, has led the sheriff to refuse her the daily newspapers. The child has, therefore, been left to stare at the iron walls of the cell, without other occupation than to listen to the songs and jests of the male prisoners across the corridor.

LION HUNTER IS LIONIZED

Tourists Flock to Cairo to Gaze on Mighty Nimrod.

Cairo, March 28.—Lionizing the lion hunter is the supreme occupation of the hour here. Colonel Roosevelt has made a complete conquest of the city and its environs. Shepherd's hotel, where Colonel Roosevelt and his party are stopping, is besieged by curious crowds, and the police have difficulty in keeping the streets near the hotel open for traffic.

Americans have flocked in during the last few days for the purpose of welcoming the ex-president, and they form a large element in the admiring throng. Hotel keepers, tradesmen, donkey boys and others are generally well satisfied, as the Roosevelt fever has given a big boost to what has been hitherto a bare season, and has brought at least temporary prosperity.

Roosevelt Talks to Editors. Cairo, March 28.—Probably the most interesting incident thus far in connection with Colonel Roosevelt's visit here occurred when, at his own suggestion, he held an informal conference with a number of Egyptian newspaper men.

UTILITIES BILL UP THIS WEEK

Corporations Will Put Up Hard Fight Wednesday

Representative Woods, Its Author, Explains Measure In Anticipation Of Opposition—Hardest Pill For Interests To Swallow Is Control Over Stock Issues Placed In Hands Of Commission—Phone Men Rush Elson Bill In Senate

Columbus, O., March 28.—The corporations that have been fighting the Woods public utilities bill will make their final stand Wednesday afternoon, when the bill comes up for final action in the house. Since its introduction in the early days of the present session three substitutes have been introduced, one by Representative Ervin, another by Representative Winters and a third by Representative Elson. None of the substitutes, however, prescribes as rigid limitations on the utilities as does the Woods bill. Although confident his measure has sufficient votes to pass, Representative Woods, anticipating an attack Wednesday, has issued a statement outlining the provisions of his bill.

The utilities embraced in the measure are express, telegraph, telephone, sleeping car, freight line, equipment, electric light, gas, natural gas, pipe line, waterworks, heating or cooling, water transportation, messenger or signal, street railroads, steam railroads, suburban and interurban roads and union depot companies.

Has Power to Regulate. The bill places the power to regulate these concerns in a commission of three men. It is proposed to make the rights of the state paramount to those of the public utility. The commission has power to regulate rates, services and all charges incident

thereto. It also can compel telephone, steam and electric railroads and interurbans to interchange service, and the commission is to determine the joint charge for the interchange after hearings in instances where the companies can not agree. Free passes and free service are prohibited and rebating and discrimination are made felonies.

The corporations are hardest hit in the power vested in the commission to regulate stock issues. This body would have ample power to prevent merged telephone companies from boosting rates, and the Elson telephone bill may be held back in the senate until the Woods measure becomes a law. There has been a strong attempt by telephone lobbyists, however, to rush it through before the utilities commission is created. Telephone systems could be merged and stock watered before the Woods bill is enacted, but not afterward.

Taft to Be Banquet Guest. Washington, March 28.—President Taft left this city at noon today for New York city, where tonight he is to be the guest of Yale '78, his old class, at a dinner at the University club. The president, it was said, will make no address, or at least will make none for publication, since the class dinner is to be strictly private. The president will go back to the capital early tomorrow morning.

TELLS ONE ON TAFT

Washington, March 28.—Senator Cullom of Illinois is being quoted as having said that William H. Taft would have retired from the campaign to secure his nomination as president and would have accepted a place on the supreme bench, thus realizing the ambition of his life, if Chief Justice Fuller had only retired.

EXPRESS AGENT IN JAIL SENDS HIS WIFE HOME

Delaware, O., March 28.—William Shaw, formerly Wells Fargo Express agent here, who is wanted by the Guaranty Bonding company of Baltimore, Md., for an alleged shortage of \$800, was arrested in Columbus and returned here, where he is in jail in default of \$1,500.

On March 13 Shaw fled from this city to Dayton, where he married Miss Clara Randolph of that city. He pretended to his bride that he was a traveling agent for the express company and that his business trip to San Francisco would be one of combined business and pleasure.

When they arrived at San Francisco he told his wife that they had to go to China, and she refused. Realizing his predicament, he left her for an hour and, returning, said he had been released from the assigned trip,

and they started back over the same route. Arriving at Springfield, he sent his wife to her home in Dayton, where she first learned of Shaw's alleged crookedness. Shaw had but \$16.60 when placed under arrest.

Jilted Girl Gets Damages. Cambridge, O., March 28.—Miss Grace Wheaton was granted \$3,333.33 1-3 damages against Hibbs Bond, a wealthy farmer of eastern Guernsey county, for breach of promise. Miss Wheaton appeared in court dressed in the clothing which she said she purchased for the wedding.

Dudley Evans Is Dead. New York, March 28.—Dudley Evans, president of the Wells Fargo Express company, died at the Roosevelt hospital. Mr. Evans became ill about a month ago.